

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7980

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

S E C R E T TEHRAN 6882

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF

SUB: NAIM'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON

REF: (A) STATE 166450, (B) ISLAMABAD 6783, (C) ISLAMABAD 6754

1. SAW PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO AT 10:30 LOCAL JULY 7 AS SCHEDULED.
2. AFTER HEARING SECRETARY'S MESSAGE AS SET FORTH IN REFTEL (A), BHUTTO COMMENTED THAT THIS WAS AN "IMPORTANT MESSAGE." HE SAID THAT IT DEMONSTRATED THE UNITED STATES' INTEREST IN STABILITY AND A REGARD FOR PEACE IN "OUR" PART OF THE WORLD.
3. AT THE END OF OUR THIRTY-MINUTE MEETING BHUTTO ADDRESSED HIMSELF TO THE SUGGESTION IN PARA 4 OF REFTEL (A) THAT YOU MIGHT VISIT AFGHANISTAN IN EARLY AUGUST. ALTHOUGH HIS PRESENTATION WAS POLITE IN THE EXTREME, IT IS CLEAR THAT BHUTTO OPPOSES YOUR STOPPING IN AFGHANISTAN IF YOU DO NOT ON THE SAME TRIP SPEND A FEW HOURS IN PAKISTAN. EITHER YOU SHOULD VISIT NEITHER COUNTRY OR VISIT BOTH. HE UNDERLINED THAT A STOP BY YOU ONLY IN AFGHANISTAN WOULD BE MISUNDERSTOOD. HE POINTED OUT THAT AFGHANISTAN WAS NON-ALIGNED, WHEREAS PAKISTAN WAS AN ALLY. HE INDICATED THAT HE WAS CONVINCED THAT SUCH A VISIT TO AFGHANISTAN WOULD CREATE IMPRESSIONS

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AND PROBLEMS WHICH NEITHER HE NOR WE NEEDED TO HAVE. HE

COMMENTED THAT EVEN HIS PRESENT TRIP TO TEHRAN HAS RESULTED IN CONJECTURE, THIS DESPITE FACT THAT HE TOLD PRESIDENT DAOUD WHEN HE SAW HIM IN KABUL ABOUT IT AND THAT IT HAD BEEN PREPARED WITH THE SHAH BEFORE THE BHUTTO-DAOUD MEETING. BHUTTO ADDED THAT YOUR VISIT TO KABUL EARLY IN THE SAME MONTH WHEN DAOUD WOULD BE VISITING ISLAMABAD WAS AN ADDITIONAL REASON FOR YOUR RECONSIDERING YOUR PLAN. (DAOUD HAS TOLD BHUTTO THAT HE HAS ACCEPTED HIS INVITATION TO VISIT PAKISTAN AND THAT HE WILL BEGIN A FOUR-DAY VISIT THERE ON 19 OR 20 AUGUST.)

4. IN BETWEEN MY PRESENTATION OF YOUR MESSAGE AND BHUTTO'S COMMENTS ABOUT YOUR PROPOSED VISIT TO KABUL, BHUTTO COVERED WITH ME THE SAME MATERIAL WHICH HE HAD WITH AMBASSADOR BYROADE (REFTEL C). AS NEARLY AS I COULD GATHER, THE ONLY NEW MATERIAL HE GAVE ME WAS THE TIME OF THE DAOUD VISIT TO PAKISTAN AND THE OUTLINES OF THE PROPOSAL HE PLANS TO MAKE TO DAOUD DURING THE VISIT. BHUTTO IS CONVINCED THAT THERE IS "NO ESCAPE FROM A PACKAGE DEAL." IN OTHER WORDS, IF HE AGREES TO PARDON OR REPRIEVE THE NAP LEADERS, THEN SIMULTANEOUSLY DAOUD MUST MAKE SOME OFFICIAL STATEMENT THAT AFGHANISTAN HAS NO TERRITORIAL CLAIMS ON PAKISTAN AND THAT AFGHANISTAN IS PREPARED TO RECOGNIZE THE EXISTENCE OF THE DURAND LINE. BHUTTO IS PERSUADED THAT UNLESS THE TWO HALVES OF THE QUARRELS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ARE ANNOUNCED SIMULTANEOUSLY, IT WILL LEAD TO THE AFGHANS MAKING CONTINUING DEMANDS ON PAKISTAN FOR ADDITIONAL CONCESSIONS AND GESTURES OF FRIENDSHIP.

5. ON BASIS OF WHAT BHUTTO SAID TO ME, WOULD AGREE WITH AMBASSADOR BYROADE IN PARAGRAPH 12 OF REFTEL (C) THAT WILLINGNESS OF DAOUD TO WORK OUT DIFFERENCES ON GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT LEVEL AND FORSWEAR OTHER CHANNELS IS SIGNIFICANT.
HELMS

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